

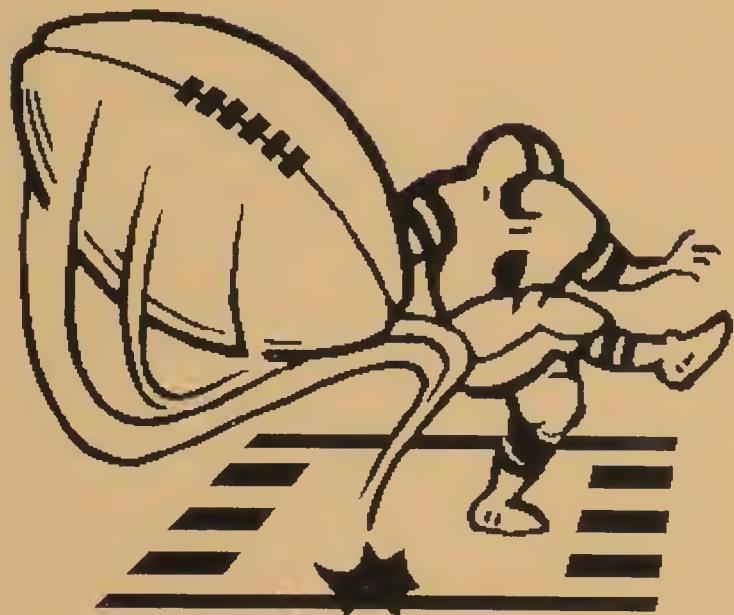


Numismatists of Wisconsin

N.O.W. News

Vol. 50 No. 3

Fall 2012



*Join The Kickoff
to all the Fall Coin Shows!*

Numismatists of Wisconsin

is incorporated in the state of Wisconsin as a non-stock nonprofit tax exempt corporation.

Contributions are tax deductible

The objective of Numismatists of Wisconsin is to encourage and promote interest in numismatics, to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin coin collectors and Wisconsin coin clubs, and to encourage and assist new numismatic hobbyists. All resources of the organization shall be used to further these objectives. Dues are \$10 per year and entitles participants to NOW News, this quarterly publication. Among the services offered are coin authentication, a Speaker's Bureau, show calendar coordination and guidelines to assist coin clubs hosting the annual NOW convention.

Numismatists of Wisconsin holds Life Memberships in the American Numismatic Association and Central States Numismatic Society.

Fall



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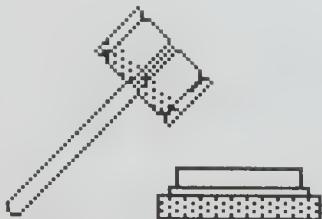
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February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1

website www.numismatistsofwisconsin.org



NOW Vice President's Message

My wife and I took a short Canadian vacation during the last week in June. Now days, everyone is thinking "green" and it has also rubbed off on me.

Being a numismatist I know that it costs a fair amount of money for any country to produce coinage. I also know how many Canadian coins show up in change around here. Years ago, as a youngster filling in my Whitman Coin Folders, I put together some very good Canadian coin sets, mostly cents and nickels just from circulation finds. I also know that banks can not exchange foreign coins like currency so they are stuck with lots of coins. Therefore, I went to the local bank and offered to buy their Canadian coins at full face value in U.S. money.

If you ever want to see a banker smile, that will do it! I also went to the local coin dealer and made him the same offer. He was another happy camper and sold me coins plus some old, very worn, one and two dollar Canadian currency notes with the warning that the notes may no longer be redeemable. All in all, I bought almost \$350 worth of Canadian coins and currency which saved me about \$30 based on the exchange rate difference and service fees that we would have been charged if we simply had exchanged currency at a bank.

Since we drove, the weight of the coins was not a problem and we did not have to worry about going through electronic security. After we got into Canada the first thing on my list was to find a bank where I could convert my coins into paper. All of the Canadians we ran into were very polite and friendly, especially in Sault St. Marie where we ended up in a small branch of the Scotia Bank. They were delighted when they saw the old banknotes and I suspect we may have witnessed the birth of some new collectors.

The coins got a different reaction. Yes, they could accept the coins, but since they did not have a coin counting machine we would have to roll the coins in the paper wrappers which they

gave us with a smile. So at a closed teller window, my wife and I got rolling.

The teller noticed that we had some old looking coins and with a concerned look asked if any of the coins were silver. I just smiled and told her no. Since most Canadian coins are magnetic, it was easy to check the nonmagnetic ones to see if they were silver and sadly only of those coins was. Needless to say, that silver dime stayed home.

Canadian currency is really neat especially the fifty dollar and up denominations. They include reflective laser images and see through sections plus denominations in Braille. The notes themselves are made of some type of plastic and a bank teller told me that the notes are virtually indestructible and cannot be torn. Much to my surprise the notes are not too slippery and are easy to count unlike new U.S. notes that tend to stick together making it easy to miscount.

Happy collecting,

Fred

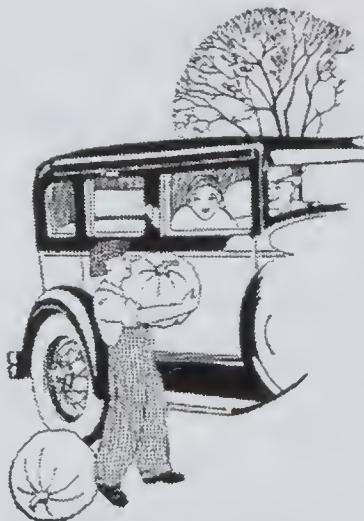
Fred Borgmann
NOW Vice President

ANA Honors NOW

The Numismatists of Wisconsin received recognition as a 50-year club member of the American Numismatic Association. Coin clubs achieving 25, 50, 75 and 100 years received special mounted certificates bearing the club's name and initial year of membership. The Nicolet Coin Club was also recognized as a 50-year club.

Individual members who achieved milestones of continuous membership this year were also honored by the ANA.

* * *



Coin Club News

Free iPhone/iPad Applications For The Numismatist

You can read the Numismatist anywhere, anytime, simply by downloading free applications for your Apple iPhone and iPad.

Obtaining the new apps is easy – simply go to www.apple.com/iphone/apps-for-iphone and select “Free Apps” from the menu in the right hand column. Type “Numismatist” in the search window in the top right corner of the page, and you will find two applications: “The Numismatist” (iPhone) and “The Numismatist HD” (iPad). Then follow Apple’s download instructions.

The new apps deliver the full, rich experience iPhone and iPad users expect. Accessing the magazine is just as easy as it is online, with full search capabilities and archives. The app is for use only on Apple products; however, similar applications for Android devices are available.

Anyone can download the free application, but only ANA members can read complete issues of The Numismatist. Use your e-mail address (the one on record with the ANA) as your login and your ANA member number (numerals only) as your password. (Note that your login and password for the online magazine do not work with the iPhone/iPad apps). If you need to verify your e-mail address as it appears in ANA records, contact membersonly@money.org.

* * *

Madison Coin Club

The number One goal of the June meeting was to search for a new venue for their coin show outside Madison’s city limits, or to modify the recent law requiring any dealer doing business within the city to have this special \$2,000 license. At the meeting we talked about progress in this area and brainstormed new ideas for the spring show. If anyone has contacted their Alder, send a copy of the response to Tom Galway.

President, Tom Galway, received the following e-mail from an unknown collector from India:

“Greetings from India! I collect U.S. coins. Wish to trade India coins for American coins. Kindly pass/circulate my message among the members of your coin club so that I can get many friends. Please reply. George.” The message was sent by svanbraun@aol.com via addthis.com.

If you contact him, please let us know what transpired, but Tom cautions that sending coins to and from India can be problematic.

* * *

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

The club is again participating in the Central States Numismatic Society book donation program. This time, \$673 worth of coin books will be going to the public library in Franklin. The Milwaukee Public Museum still has the coin display that the club donated in 2007 to set up the display.

Last June MNS President Leon Saryan attended an interesting presentation at the Milwaukee Public Library on Captain Frederick Pabst, Milwaukee's famous German immigrant beer magnate.

The speaker was John Eastberg, curator of the Pabst Mansion, and an expert on all things related to the Pabst family.

Eastberg pointed out "We live in an age when capitalists and rich people in general are vilified and denigrated. Few realize, however, that it's the wealthy among us whose generosity make some of the best things in life possible – charitable societies, the arts, symphonic music, and live theatre. The most affluent among us deserve much of the credit for bringing culture and fine art to our city, making possible the elevation of the human spirit for the masses.

In addition to building an empire based on beer, Captain Pabst and his wife were great public spirited capitalists who gave freely to support causes such as the Humane Society, the theatre and the arts.

In 1895, while the Pabsts were on a tour of Europe, word reached him that the Stadt Theatre in Milwaukee had been consumed in flames. His cabled reply to Milwaukee was short and sweet – rebuild at once. He put his money where his mouth was, and within a few months, the new theater building was complete and renamed in honor of its benefactor. He was also an indefatigable art collector, and amassed a huge collection, including some noteworthy masterpieces.

The Milwaukee Numismatic Society would like to invite Mr. Eastberg to a meeting sometime in the future.

* * *



Book Nook

New Books for Collectors from Krause Publications

"Strike It Rich Spurs Rare Cent Find"

[authors: Dr. Brian Allen and Ken Potter]

A 1983 copper-alloy cent has been found by a Pennsylvania collector who had purchased a copy of Strike it Rich with Pocket Change.

It is the second one known to exist. All cents made in 1983 should be of copper-coated zinc. The collector, who wishes to remain anonymous, made her discovery several weeks after acquiring the book.

She reports that she found the copper cent after reading Potter and Allen's account of how Billy Crawford of South Carolina found one by setting all the 1983 cents to the side, while looking for doubled dies and other varieties in circulated rolls, so that he could weigh them all later.

The cents struck from 1963 through about mid 1982 are of a solid brass composition made up of 95% copper and 5% zinc. They weigh 3.11 grams. The cents struck from about mid 1982 to date are struck on planchets made up of solid zinc core (with a trace of copper) that are barrel plated with pure copper and weigh 2.5 grams.

Crawford hoped that his efforts would result in him finding a transitional error of a 1983 cent struck on a planchet left over from the early part of 1982 before the copper plated zinc cents were introduced later in that same

year. Eventually he found one and the authors detailed his story on the find on page 64 of the second edition and on page 75 in the third edition of the book.

In Strike It Rich, the authors placed a possible value of \$15,000 on an AU/Unc. example, but it was just a guess. The owner now has this coin slated for sale at an upcoming Heritage auction.

This story has been unfolding for a while. The finder of this second example first contacted Potter in August, 2010. He took it with him to the ANA World's Fair of Money last summer in Chicago where noted error coin expert and dealer Fred Weinberg of Encino, California, inspected it and stated it weighed within tolerance of a solid copper alloy cent and bore the correct surface characteristics.

Weinberg suggested it be sent to the Professional Coin Grading Service for authentication and encapsulation. PCGS attributed it as genuine – not gradable and mentioned on the holder that it was a “Transitional Error.” The coin had a dark area on the lower reverse. Nonetheless, it is only one of two examples of this error that Potter knows of for sure and a fantastic find no matter what the grade. For more information on Strike it Rich With Pocket Change, visit www.shopnumismaster.com.

* * *

U.S. Coins Close Up

[Author Robert VanRyzin]

The best way to know whether or not a coin is genuine is to understand what a genuine coin looks like. And a picture is worth a thousand words, which is what makes U.S. Coins Close Up: Tips to Identifying Valuable Types and Varieties a must-have.

With the advent of online coin sales and the flood of counterfeit coins from China, collectors are increasingly wary about the authenticity of coins. This visual guide to

U.S. coins from award-winning author Robert VanRyzin shows collectors how to identify a genuine coin from an altered or one variety from another. This is an ideal product for anyone looking for a handy, portable guide to identifying genuine U.S. coins.

The book features:

Clear details of inscriptions, mintmarks and initials with tips and explanations on how to distinguish major from minor varieties.

Hundreds of large, impressive images highlighting key areas of genuine U.S. coins. Detailed descriptions of coin varieties, a glossary of numismatic terms, and meanings behind the images on the coins.

For more information, visit www.sellcoinbooks.com/us-coin/u-s-coins-close-up.

About the author: A collector for more than 35 years, Robert VanRyzin serves as editor of Coins Magazine, Coin Prices and Bank Note Reporter. He is also the author of Striking Impressions: A Visual Guide to Collecting U.S. Coins, Fantasy and Fiction from U.S. Coins, Crime of 1873: the Comstock Connection and Fascinating Facts, Mysteries and Myths About U.S. Coins.

* * *

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America the Beautiful Quarters

Acadia National Park Quarter Maine

The Acadia National Park quarter is the third of 2012 and the 13th overall in the America the Beautiful Quarters Program. The quarter was released in a ceremony held June 26.

Awed by its beauty and diversity, early 20th-century visionaries donated the land on the rugged coast of Maine that became Acadia National Park, the first national park east of the Mississippi River. The park is home to the tallest mountain on the U.S. Atlantic Coast. Visitors come to Acadia to hike over granite peaks, bike on historic carriage roads and enjoy the spectacular scenery. It was first established as a national site on July 8, 1916.

The reverse image depicts a view of the Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse and Acadia's rough coastline. The design captures many representative elements of Acadia: the coastline, the lighthouse, the pine trees and the ocean. Inscriptions are ACADIA, MAINE, 2012 AND E PLURIBUS UNUM.



Hawaii Quarter Volcanoes National Park

The Hawaii Volcanoes National Park quarter is the fourth of 2012 and the 14th overall in the America the Beautiful Quarters Program.

Established as Hawaii National Park in 1916, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park displays the results of 70 million years of volcanism, migration and evolution -- processes

that thrust a bare land up from the sea, creating unique ecosystems and a distinct human culture. Created to preserve the national setting of Kilauea and Mauna Loa volcanoes, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park is one of the most fascinating biological landscapes in the world. The Hawaiian Archipelago, located more than 2,000 miles from the nearest continental land mass, is the most geographically isolated group of islands on earth. It was first established as a national site on August 1, 1916.

The reverse design depicts an eruption on the east rift of Kilauea Volcano, capturing the magnificent beauty of the volcano. Inscriptions are HAWAII VOLCANOES, HAWAII, 2012 and E PLURIBUS UNUM.

The quarter is scheduled to be released and enter circulation on August 27th.

Design candidates were developed in consultation with representatives of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

* * *

Presidential \$1

**Benjamin
Harrison
23rd
President
1889-1893**

Grandson
of former
President
William Henry
Harrison,
Benjamin

Harrison was born in 1833 on a farm by the Ohio River below Cincinnati.

Harrison's career was as uninspiring as the man himself. He graduated from Miami College and studied law for two years in Cincinnati. In 1853 he married Caroline Scott, a preacher's daughter. The couple moved to Indianapolis where he took his first job as court crier for \$2.50 a day. Later he became city attorney, court reporter and when the Civil War came he was commissioned colonel of an Indiana regiment and rode with Sherman.

After the war he returned to Indianapolis and in 1881 the Indiana legislature elected him to the U.S. Senate where he served 1 term without distinction. Defeated for re-election he left Washington in 1887, convinced that his political career was behind him. In two years he was president.

Life in the White House with Harrison was like his administration, plain and uneventful. There was little entertaining, no glamorous dinners. The systematic President never varied his daily habits: breakfast at eight followed by a half-hour of prayer by the entire family closeted in one room; a 1:00 lunch, early dinner and early to bed.



The new electric lights, installed in 1891, baffled the Harrisons. They let the lights burn all night in the halls and parlors, fearing that if they turned them off they would get a shock. They were extinguished by the White House electrician when he came on duty in the morning. For a long time the Harrisons did not use the lights in their bedrooms.

While Harrison was President, the country suffered its worst peacetime disaster when Conemaugh Dam, twelve miles above Johnstown, PA, broke on May 31, 1889, and a run-away lake swept down the valley submerging the city and outlying towns. About 2,205 lives were lost and the damage was estimated at \$10 million.

After the Civil War, during which Harrison served as colonel of the 70th Volunteer infantry, he enhanced his reputation as a lawyer. In the 1880s, he served in the U.S. Senate where he championed American Indians, homesteaders and Civil War veterans. In the presidential election of 1888, he received 100,000 fewer popular votes than President Cleveland, but carried the electoral College 233 to 168.

As President, Harrison was proud of his vigorous foreign policy. The first Pan American Congress met in Washington in 1889, establishing an information center which later became the Pan American Union. At the end of his administration, Harrison submitted a treaty to the Senate to annex Hawaii, but his successor withdrew it.

He also signed important appropriation bills for internal improvements, naval expansion and subsidies for steamship lines and the Sherman Anti-Trust Act "to protect trade and commerce against unlawful restraints and monopolies." This act was the first federal attempt to regulate trusts. He was re-nominated by his party in 1892 but lost to Grover Cleveland.

A dignified elder statesman, he died in 1901.

Coinage Legislation Under President Harrison

Act of July 14, 1890 – directing the purchase of silver bullion and the issue of Treasury notes thereon, and for other purposes.

Act of September 26, 1890 – To amend section 3510 of the Revised Statutes of the United States and to provide for new designs of authorized devices of United States coins (included new designs for coins to be authorized every 25 years).

Act of September 26, 1890 – An act to discontinue the coinage of the \$3 and \$1 gold pieces and 3¢ nickel piece.

Act of February 10, 1891 – To prevent counterfeiting or manufacture of dies, tools, or other implements used in counterfeiting, and providing penalties therefore, and providing for the issue of search warrants in certain cases.

Act of August 5, 1892 – Authorizing coinage of 5,000,000 souvenir half-dollars for the World's Columbian Exposition.

Edward O. Leech of California was appointed U.S. Mint Director (1889-1893).

First Spouse Gold Coin Caroline Harrison 1889-1892

Caroline Lavina Scott Harrison was born October 1, 1832, in Oxford, Ohio. She enjoyed painting for recreation, including china painting, which became one of her passions when she taught ceramic painting at her church. Along with her German teacher, Paul Putzki, she taught china painting classes. The classes were made up of Washington wives and daughters.



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She painted a "White House Orchid" with water colors and dedicated it to "mothers, wives and daughters of America." She decorated White House candlesticks, milk sets, platters and other pieces, as well as those owned by women in Washington wanting a White House memento. Her signature was a tiny four-leaf clover.

As first lady, Caroline Harrison began the effort to organize pieces of past Presidential china still in the White House into a systematic collection for later display. She uncovered, identified and tagged china, grouping pieces together for eventual public display. She had a china cabinet made to display all past Presidential china she found.



The reverse represents Mrs. Harrison's love of flowers, depicting a close-up of an orchid and paint brushes.

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Exhibit Tells Story of U.S. Mint

[Wisconsin State Journal]

The last time the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia upgraded its public exhibits, Richard Nixon was in the first year of his presidency and the Beatles had just performed their final concert.

On July 3rd the Mint reopened to the public with a new \$3.9 million self-guided tour that is the first update since 1969. The 2-level exhibit includes displays of artifacts and coins from the Mint's earliest days, as well as windows overlooking the production floor with new touch screens and interactive features that describe the coin-making process.

The first level of the exhibit highlights the Mint's history, with artifacts from enormous bullion scales and coin presses to oversized coin design mock-up sculpted by the Mint's team of staff artists. Also on display are elaborate iron gates from the former Mint building in Philadelphia that operated from 1901 to 1968.

On the upper level, windows 40 feet above the production floor show a small portion of the sprawling 60,000 square foot plant. Touch screens explain how 6,000 pound metal rolls go through a cookie cutter-like press that punches out coin-sized blanks, which are heated, washed and stamped on front and back. An inspector spot-checks each coin batch and the coins are machine-counted and poured into huge bags that end up in banks nationwide.

"The goal today is 8 million pennies in one shift" said Joe Falls, head of coining operations for the Mint. The coins are stamped so quickly -- for pennies, it's about 750 a minute -- that they're warm and as they emerge from the stamping machine and fall onto a conveyor belt.

The exhibition space could expand if additional funding becomes available. The Denver Mint is the only one beyond Philadelphia that is open to the public for tours. The country's oldest and largest Mint, the Philadelphia facility, sees about 250,000 visitors annually.

* * *

The 10 Best Places to Find Coins

[reprinted from The Numismatist]

A dedicated coin hunter shares tried-and-true tips for gathering lost change.

Blogger Jeffrey Strain considers a great variety of topics in his postings on www.savingadvice.com. When he's not sharing his thoughts about bad bosses and ways to reuse dryer sheets, he likes to walk, and when he walks, he looks for coins. "Ever since I was a kid, I loved finding money. I pick up a minimum of \$50 annually and estimate that I clear over \$100 most years." He says, adding that it helps that he lived for a time in Japan, which has high-denomination circulating coinage.

Here are Strain's Top 10 places to find coins.

- 10. Sidewalks** – Many people walk by money simply because they don't see it.
- 9. Gutters** – This is particularly true of routes with a lot of scooter traffic (as in Japan).
- 8. Intersections and Crosswalks** – Surprisingly, more coins turn up here than on sidewalks and in gutters.
- 7. Train and Subway Stations** – People take out money to buy tickets and invariably drop coins.
- 6. Telephone Booths** – Before the advent of cell phones, this was a great place to find coins. Nevertheless, it's still worth checking.
- 5. Stores** – Wherever people purchase goods, you're sure to find money on the floor, particularly along floorboards and in corners.

4. Parking Lots – People drop change as they get out of their cars.

3. Self-Pay Parking Machines – People sometimes drop coins as they lean out the window to put them into the machine. Most times, they won't get out of the car to retrieve them.

2. Around Vending Machines – This is especially true in the winter when people are wearing gloves.

1. Vending Machine Coin-Return Slots – Most of them have clear, plastic windows, so you can see inside without feeling around. Again, winter is the best time, as people have difficulty grasping the coins when they are wearing gloves.

* * *

The Royal Canadian Mint is challenging software developers to create apps for Digital Currency

[thestar.com]

Less than a week after the government announced the penny's impending death, the Mint quietly unveiled its digital currency called MintChip.

Still in the research and development phase, MintChip will ultimately let people pay each other directly using smartphones, USB sticks, computers, tablets and clouds. The digital currency will be anonymous and good for small transactions — just like cash.

To make sure its technology meets the gold standard in a world where digital transactions are gaining steam, the Mint is holding a contest for software developers to create applications using the MintChip. The old-fashioned prize? Solid gold wafers and coins worth about \$50,000.

It's such an unusual move from the crown corporation, which has been in the coin-making business for more than 100 years, that Hacker News questioned whether it was an "elaborate hoax."

It's not, the Mint's chief financial officer Marc Brûlé says that Commerce is changing and the Mint has always been innovative. There's been a very huge growing digital economy that is really going to be fueled by smartphones and mobile being the next big thing."

Despite the variety of payment options, he said there are "still no cost effective electronic solutions" for low value transactions that can be used regardless of a person's age or credit standing.

MintChip, a secure microchip, will be able to do this by letting people transfer small amounts of money (for an iTunes song or a newspaper) with no personal information attached to it, he said.

The Mint's move into the digital market is a reflection the competitive payments industry, Interac spokeswoman Caroline Hubberstey said.

Despite a December 2011 government report claiming Canada's payments system is "outdated" and "has simply not evolved," Hubberstey said it the industry is "highly competitive and rapidly changing."

Interact pegs the value of small cash and coin transactions (under \$20) at \$90 billion, and companies big and small want a share of that market as it turns digital, Hubberstey said. "Players you wouldn't have thought of before" are looking for ways to get into the market of secure transactions."

"You're seeing competitors that have been in the space in a while and new competitors looking at the payments market as an opportunity."

The payments industry's last major shake happened in the mid-90s when debit card use took off. As more smartphones adopt Near Field Communication (NFC) technology, which lets users hover their phones over NFC-enabled devices to make payments, mobile payments are expected to soar.

Interact, Mastercard and Visa already have contactless cards that use near field communication (NFC) chips for small payments at gas stations and grocery stores.

PayPal, Google and Visa have introduced digital wallets where consumers control all their cashless payments from one place. Companies Square and Pay firma let people accept credit card payments on their smartphones.

The difference with MintChip is it doesn't plan to link to a person's bank account or credit card information. And unlike BitCoin, a peer-to-peer hosted digital currency with a fluctuating value, MintChip is simply a new way to exchange Canadian dollars. Plus, it's backed by the Canadian government.

It's still too early for specifics such as how the Mint will make a profit from this, how it will prevent hackers from stealing cash, whether the money is anyway traceable or who exactly will load a chip with money, but Brûlé said the response to the contest has been tremendous.

Developers may have been skeptical about MintChip, but the 500 contest spots were filled in just four days.

* * *



12

Any Time You Call An 800 Number -- (A Must Read) --

[e-mail from unknown source]

The gas company serving this area brought their call center back to Atlanta from India last year after numerous customer complaints. What a difference now when you call them... and it created 300 jobs. I know this works because they were so bad that when India answered I wouldn't even deal with them. I'd simply ask to be transferred to a supervisor in the U.S. and they would comply.

Now that I know it is the LAW – I will do it for sure.

Any time you call an 800 number (for a credit card, banking, charter communications, health and other insurance, computer help desk, etc.) and you find that you're talking to a foreign customer service representative (perhaps in India, Philippines, etc.) please consider doing the following:

After you connect and you realize that the customer service representative is not from the USA (you can always ask if you are not sure about the accent), please very politely (this is not about trashing other cultures) say, "I'd like to speak to a customer service representative in the United States of America." The rep might suggest talking to his/her manager, but again, politely say "thank you, but I'd like to speak to a customer service rep in the USA."

YOU WILL BE IMMEDIATELY CONNECTED TO A REP IN THE USA. – That's the rule and the LAW.

It takes less than one minute to have your call redirected to the USA. Tonight when I got redirected to a USA rep, I asked again to make sure – and yes, she was from Fort Lauderdale.

Imagine what would happen if every US citizen insisted on talking to only US phone reps from this day on... Imagine how that would ultimately impact the number of US jobs that would need to be created ASAP.

Remember, the goal is to restore jobs back here at home -- not to be abrupt or rude to a foreign phone rep. You may even get correct answers, good advice and solutions to your problem... in real English.

Comparing One Dollar Gold Pieces – Do They Add Up?

[by Mark Benvenuto #2089]

There are some so called rarities that seem to be perennial collector favorites. The 1916-D Mercury dime and the 1909-S VDB Lincoln cent are two that come quickly to mind. There were 264,000 of the first, and 484,400 of the second produced, which is certainly far fewer than just about any other date and mint mark in those series.

But then, there are other series where in general, the annual mintages were almost always lower than these “rarities,” and no one seems to give a hoot about them. Right now, we’re talking about the \$1 gold pieces, minted from 1849, all the way to 1889. In that time span, there are three different obverse designs – all the artwork of Mr. James Longacre – and only about ten years when an official Mint tally places their production at or higher than the two coins we just mentioned. Yet the prices for all of these small and shiny bits of gold are often not too high at all. What gives?

Well, first of all, there don’t seem to be many collectors who gravitate towards this series in terms of date and mint mark collecting. That does keep prices down a bit, although not in all cases. The example might be the coins with a ‘C’ or ‘D’ mint mark on them. Almost all gold of the short-lived Mints at Charlotte and Dahlonega ends up being expensive, and that then keeps plenty of folks away from a series like this.

Secondly, when it comes to gold, our hobby is heavily infiltrated by investors. This is not necessarily a bad thing, as serious numismatists/investors always keep an eye on prices, and help keep our hobby exciting. But \$1 gold pieces are losers for this type of collector. With only 0.0484 ounces of actual gold in each, the \$1 gold pieces are only worth \$77.44 even when gold is at \$1,600 per ounce on the world markets.



1849 - 1854 \$1 gold

Finally, \$1 gold pieces may simply be less collected than other gold coins of the US and other countries because they are very small. That may seem like a dud of a reason, but let’s call a spade a spade: people like big coins. If you don’t believe that, give a talk on coin collecting to a bunch of children, then send around a grab bag of free coins, telling them each to take just one. Look in your bag when you are done – the biggest coins always go first. Now admit it to yourself: we’re all just big kids!

So, with this many factors working against the humble \$1 gold piece, it might be worth doing a couple of “compare and contrast” exercises for specific dates. Very well then, here we go!

The 1853 Versus the 1850.

It took until 1853 for the Mint in Philadelphia to pound out almost 4.1 million of these small dollars in a single year, but that makes an amazing high water mark, as it were. The cost of one of these very common gold pieces is about \$350 in MS-60 as this is being written (when gold is indeed about \$1,600 per ounce on the markets). Three years earlier, in 1850, the folks in Philly put out only 481,953 of them. Yet the price tags, in MS-60 as well as the lower grades, are virtually the same. It seems there is at least one pretty heavy duty sleeper in this Type 1 of the \$1 gold series.

Right away the astute reader can claim that the 1850 isn't really a rarity, especially not when compared to the 'C' and 'D' coins we just mentioned. Okay, point conceded. But those two mint marks are always scarce enough that they will command a premium. If you are looking through pricing sheets for bargains among 'C' and 'D' marked gold, all you'll get is practice.

The 1854 versus the 1855-O

The short-lived Type 2 version of the \$1 gold pieces only span from 1854 to 1856 (and that lattermost date only came from the west coast facility in San Francisco). In 1854, there were almost one million of these little gold gems produced, while down in the Big Easy the next year, only 55,000 of them were made. No, these are not similarly priced, certainly not in the mint state grades. But while the 'O' piece here is roughly 15 times less common than its east coast sibling of 1854, its prices are generally only three or four times higher. That's not as good a deal as the one we just mentioned, but this New Orleans piece is still something of a bargain, if you think about it.

The 1856 and 1862, versus anything from 1880 – 1889.

There are only two years in the span during which the Type 3 gold pieces were produced that any single Mint total went over one million coins, 1856 and 1862. Both of these come in at or just under \$400 in MS-60, again, as this is being written. If you look through the entire 1856 – 1889 range, you will find many more years in which ten thousand or less of them were minted. It seems that the desire for \$1 gold pieces just wasn't that high, even in their day. From 1880 up to and including 1889, the highest mintage was 30,729. The lowest was 1,636. That's no mistake; there was a year (it was 1880) when less than two thousand of these tiny gold pieces were produced.

Now for the shocker: all the 1880 – 1889 \$1 gold pieces are currently ringing in at \$380 - \$475 in an MS-60 grade! Again, there's no mistake or typo here. These gold pieces are almost exactly the same as far as prices go, when compared to the much more common dates.

Let's wrap up with a quick warning, though: just because something is a sleeper, an under-valued coin, doesn't mean it will wake up as soon as you buy one. Actually, it's often hard to buy one, precisely because they are rare and thus hard to find. These prices between common and uncommon dates may not seem to add up... at least, not at a first glance. But wow, looking for one or more of them can definitely be worth the hunt.

* * *

Paying Respect

Coins Left on Tombstones Convey Special Messages

[ANA Numismatist]

While visiting cemeteries, you might notice that people occasionally place coins atop veterans' tombstones, reports Larry Dziubek in the June 3 edition of The E-Sylum.

"Leaving a penny at the grave means simply that you visited" he says.

A nickel indicates you and the deceased trained at boot camp together, while a dime means you served with him in some capacity.

By leaving a quarter at the grave, you are telling the family that you were with the soldier when he was killed."

At national and state veterans' cemeteries, the coins are collected and used to pay burial expenses for indigent veterans.

* * *

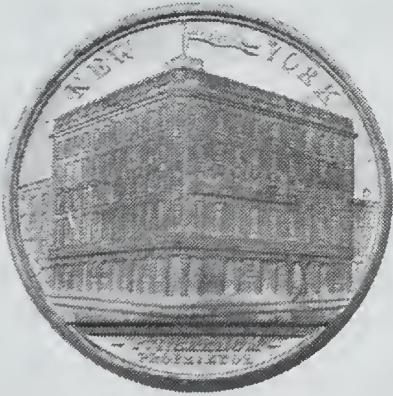
Old Abe and the “General”

[by Gene Johnson #105L]

The soulful presidency of Abraham Lincoln, which encompassed the Civil War, is a sad documentary of failed union army generals. Among these were the unskilled politicos, the over-cautious career men, and those with no stomach for battle.

Most Civil War buffs can name the more successful union army brass -- General Grant, General Sherman and General Thumb... You say you never heard of General Thumb? Well, maybe that's because "General Tom Thumb" was the creation of pitchman Phineas T. Barnum, who in the years 1844-1853 turned a 6-year old midget named Charles Sherwood Stratton into a famous 15-year old international attraction at his "American Museum" in New York City.

*PT Barnum American
Museum souvenir medal in
New York*



The "American Museum" was a combination curiosity collection and carnival type freak show (including a giant) that on another Barnum advertising token, claimed to hold a half million odd and curious items, including coins, medals, Indian artifacts, art, etc.. The cost of admission was two bits.

Somehow the slick pitchman was able to talk Charles' parents into letting him take control of the bright little guy at six years of age. This may have reflected on the economic time period and the fact that both of his parents were of normal size.

How Barnum came up with the "General Tom Thumb" title for the midget, no one seems to know, but in 1863 at the age of 24, the "General" really did play a role in Abe Lincoln's Civil War.

Charles "Tom Thumb" Stratton, (1838-1883) had married early in 1863, and P.T. Barnum, in a masterful stroke of publicity, brought him and his midget wife to Lincoln's White House for a gala event where the tiny couple was a bright spot in the nation's dismal, dejected and dusty

wartime capital. In his 1957 book "Mr. Lincoln's Washington," author Stanley Kimmel described the event:

"The "General" wore a full suit of black, patent leather boots, a faultless necktie, a large breast pin of brilliants, a gold watch with elaborate chain, and a pair of snow white kid gloves. His diminutive wife was gowned in rich white satin, sprinkled with green leaves and looped with carnation buds, with a necklace, cluster pin, and bracelets of sparkling diamonds unmatched by any woman attending the affair. Lincoln remarked to the "General" that he had put the president of the United States "completely in the shade" for since his arrival in the capital he had been "the greater center of attraction."

At the time of the White House visit, Tom was 32" tall and weighed 21 pounds. His bride was about the same height and a tad heavier.

The tiny couple were later serenaded in a ball at their hotel by the Goodall's Capital Band, before returning to Philadelphia the next day.

There is little doubt that the illustrated token was part of the famous P.T. Barnum "ballyhoo."



The obverse of the Spielmark type token depicts the midget at age 15, nine years before his Civil War time marriage. It uses two books, one standing on end, to dramatize the "General's" tiny size, only 25 inches in height and weighing 15 pounds.

This token, Rulau (NY NY-19) is one of two different types tokens struck in England remembering Tom Thumb listed in the 2004 token book. Russ Rulau dates the token (Ca. 1852) based on the General's size and weight at that time. Not considered rare, the brass token is catalogued at \$30.00 in uncirculated condition.

The striking of this General Tom Thumb token is interesting. The reverse die closely resembles the obverse of the U.S. 1831-1838 quarter dollar, but seems unrelated to that issue period.

Tom Thumb souvenir pieces were struck in England as late as 1881, two years before his death.

The war between the states has hundreds of fascinating stories to tell, but most dwell on the bloody conflict, and ignore the desperate civilian lives and times surrounding our revered and martyred president, Abraham Lincoln.



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World Book Encyclopedia

* * *

Editor's Note:

"Tom Thumb", a book written by George Sullivan, offers additional insights about this remarkable little man.

Charles Sherwood Stratton, was born January 4, 1838, to parents, who were of medium height. He weighed 9 pounds 8 ounces and developed normally for the first 6 months of his life.

"Charley" made his first tour of America at the age of five, with routines that included impersonating characters such as Cupid, and Napoleon Bonaparte as well as singing, dancing and comical banter. A year later he toured Europe and appeared twice before Queen Victoria. He also met the 3-year old Prince of Wales, who would become King Edward VII.

Under Barnum's management, Stratton became a wealthy man. He owned a house in the fashionable part of New York, had a steam yacht, and had a wardrobe of fine clothes. He also had a specially adapted home in one of Connecticut's Thimble Islands. When Barnum got into financial difficulty, Stratton bailed him out and they later became business partners.

Stratton made his final appearance in England in 1878. The "General" died of a stroke on July 15, 1883 (age 45), with over 10,000 people attending his funeral. P.T. Barnum purchased a life-size statue of Tom Thumb and placed it as a grave stone at Mountain Grove Cemetery in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

P.T. Barnum 1881
*Greatest Show on Earth
souvenir fob honors
Chang, who was nearly
8' tall, truly a giant for
his time.*

Circus World Museum Acquires a New Artifact



When crews were renovating a downtown Madison bar last month, they discovered a wall of old barn boards covered with a poster for the P.T. Barnum Greatest Show on Earth and the Great London Circus that dates back to August 1886 when the show came to Madison. 24 boards, which came in 4, 8 & 12' sections, were carefully wrapped in tissue paper and transported to Baraboo. (Wisconsin State Journal).

Milwaukee Numismatic Society's 32nd Annual Boy Scout Coin Collecting Merit Badge Clinic

[by Leon A. Saryan, LM100]

Forty-two boy scouts earned their coin collecting merit badge at the 32nd annual Milwaukee Boy Scout Coin Collecting Merit Badge Clinic held on March 31. The clinic has been sponsored and organized by the Milwaukee Numismatic Society for the past three decades, and is usually held in the spring in conjunction with the three-day annual coin show of the South Shore Coin Club.

The clinic gives boys in the 12 to 16-year age category a four-hour basic introduction to numismatics. Subjects covered include coin and paper money manufacture, coin basics and terminology, coin storage, identification, mints and mint marks, designer's initials, the state quarter program, coin grading, paper currency basics, and the function of the Federal Reserve. To complete the requirements boys are required to bring with them specific coins from their collections and attend a coin show.

Upon arrival, each boy was presented with a bag full of collectable coins plus a magazine or coin album, and throughout the program scouts with the right answers earned additional prizes. All of the gifts presented to the scouts were donated to the MNS by dealers and numismatic organizations. MNS is extremely grateful to all those who supported the program with their donations.

The 2012 program was very well-received by the boys, their troop leaders, and several parents who attended. One boy came up at the end of the program to express his appreciation, and told us that, out of the 45 different merit badges that he has earned thus far, this program was one of the most enjoyable he had attended.

The MNS merit badge clinic was inaugurated more than three decades ago by veteran MNS members Lee Hartz and Tom Casper. About 8 years ago, the program was updated by former MNS president Bruce Benoit, adding a video and replacing the original Kodachrome slide show with a PowerPoint presentation. This year, the principal speaker and clinic director was MNS president Leon Saryan and clinic coordinator was Jon Williams.



The success of this clinic is the result of a team effort by MNS members. As clinic coordinator, Jon took up the daunting task of gathering door prizes donated by dealers and organizations. Speaker Roger Lick discussed coin grading, Dave Hunsicker spoke about mint marks, and Lee Hartz presented paper money and the Fed.

Special thanks also goes to Stu Caddell, who edited and updated our PowerPoint program and integrated the "Money Story" video to his personal laptop so that a separate VCR was not needed. Stu drove the PowerPoint and everything worked perfectly!

Other volunteers included MNS YN members Peter Caddell and Jason Paonessa, who served as speaker assistants, and several test graders—Steve Scheil, Dave Zaniewski, Henry Jaworsky, Betty Petrovick, Joe Paonessa, Gary Bieringer and Bruce Bartelt.

Finally, MNS is grateful for the support of the South Shore Coin Club, which made it possible for us to host the program



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We Pay Top Prices!

We need inventory for our customers
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Professional Appraisals
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- Coins
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- US & Foreign
- Certified Coins
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- Supplies



Give Us a Call or Stop By

in conjunction with their excellent three-day show which ran from March 29-March 31.

For more information about the Milwaukee Numismatic Society, visit the society's website at www.milwaukeenumismaticsociety.com.

* * *

U.S. Postal Tip

[E-mail from Lee Hartz]

You may have heard that a few Post Offices in Texas have been forced to take down small posters that say "IN GOD WE TRUST." The law, they say, is being violated...

Payback is fun!!! --

**So let's all start writing
"IN GOD WE TRUST" on the front (or back)
of our envelopes, including Bills.**

After all, that's our National Motto and it appears on the currency we use.

One reason why this world is in the mess we're in now.. We just sit back and let it happen!! We need to take back our nation from all the people who think that anything that offends them should be removed.

It's been reported that 86% of Americans believe in God. Therefore, we have a very hard time understanding why there's such a fuss about having "In God We Trust" on our money and having God in the Pledge of Allegiance. Maybe WE just need to take action and tell the 14% to sit down and shut up.

If you like this idea, pass it on and DO IT... Write 'IN GOD WE TRUST' on your letters and bills. Some people are having a rubber stamp made to ensure that it is seen... Let's use it as our signature on e-mails too.

"IN GOD WE TRUST"

Summer Olympics

[Phyllis Calkins #99L]



The Summer Olympics in London have just been completed. It was every athlete's dream to win an Olympic medal during the world-wide event which began July 27th and ran through August 12th.

The influx of 1 million extra visitors, however, created a multitude of problems, including a scramble for cold, hard cash in the British capitol. Ample supplies of cash and credit was needed as visitors grappled with London's high prices. The United Kingdom's Payment Council had to figure out how much cash was needed during the tourist surge and what denominations would be most useful.

Many visitors were sticker-shocked over British prices. Ticket prices for the cheap seats cost \$32, with the front-row tickets selling for \$3,200. The British capitol has long been one of the world's most expensive cities.

Befuddled people wondered what currency to use. Some were advised to withdraw cash before they arrived and to have a back-up plan in case their credit cards were rejected. A British financial authority recommended visitors bring British pounds with them and the stores in Olympic Park accepted only certain credit cards.

Britain, which uses pounds (not euros or dollars) had a test prior to the Olympics when some cash machines ran dry over a 4-day holiday in June honoring Queen Elizabeth II's 60-year reign. ATMs across London ran out of cash as hundreds of thousands visited the city.

An estimated 49 billion pounds (\$77 billion) of cash was in circulation across the United Kingdom and there were 1,700 cash machines near Olympic venues. Since VISA held an exclusive sponsorship for the Olympics, people either had to use cash or VISA credit or debit cards or go to kiosks where other credit cards could be used to buy special VISA prepaid cards. VISA removed 27 ATMs from Olympic venues and replaced them with just 8 VISA-only cash machines.

Olympic Medal History



The olive wreath was the prize for the winner at the Ancient Olympic Games. It was an olive branch, of the wild-olive tree that grew at Olympia, intertwined to form a circle or a horse-shoe. According to Pausanias, it was introduced by Heracles as a prize for the winner of the running race to honor Zeus.

Instead of going for the gold, athletes strove for silver. A silver medal was awarded to the winner of an event at the first modern Olympic Games in 1896."

Athens 1896 Olympic Participation Medal

During the Athens 1896 Olympic Games, the Organising Committee



produced a large quantity of bronze Commemorative Medals. On the front Nike is seated holding a laurel wreath over phoenix emerging from flames, Acropolis in background while in the back there is Greek legend in wreath. Although the medal was at first intended for the athletes and the officials of the 14 competing national delegations, the original mintage was high (almost 20,000) to accommodate sales to the general public while a considerable number of them was given free to families living close to where Games were held.

The medal shown is a reproduction and sells for approximately \$12. An original Participation Medal was recently offered on e-bay for \$1,269.

Paris 1900 Olympic Medals

The 1900 Olympics were the second Summer Olympic games and were held in Paris, France from May 14 to October. The games of the II Olympiad consisted of 95 events.



*Paris 1900 1st place medal (front & back)
Some medalists took home this rectangular prize,
unique in Olympic history.*

The Olympics, was an international multi-sport event, held as part of the 1900 World's Fair. No opening or closing ceremonies were held; One thousand competitors took part in 19 different sports and women took part in the games for the first time. The decision to hold competitions

on a Sunday brought protesters from many American athletes, who travelled as representatives of their colleges and were expected to withdraw rather than compete on their religious day of rest.

Most of the winners in 1900 did not receive medals, but were given cups or trophies. Some unusual events were contested for the only time in the history of the Games including automobile and motorcycle racing, ballooning, cricket, croquet, Basque pelota and 200m swimming obstacle race and underwater swimming.

Rome, Italy 1960

The 1960 Summer Olympics were held in Rome, Italy from August 25 to September 11, 1960. The games consisted of 150 events.

After having to give up the 1908 Olympics due to the 1906 eruption of Mount Vesuvius, Rome finally played host to the 1960 Games.

Italy created a mixture of modern and ancient sites to hold the contests. An Olympic Stadium and a Sports Palace were built for the Games while the Basilica of Maxentius and the Baths of Carcalla were restored to host the wrestling and gymnastic events.



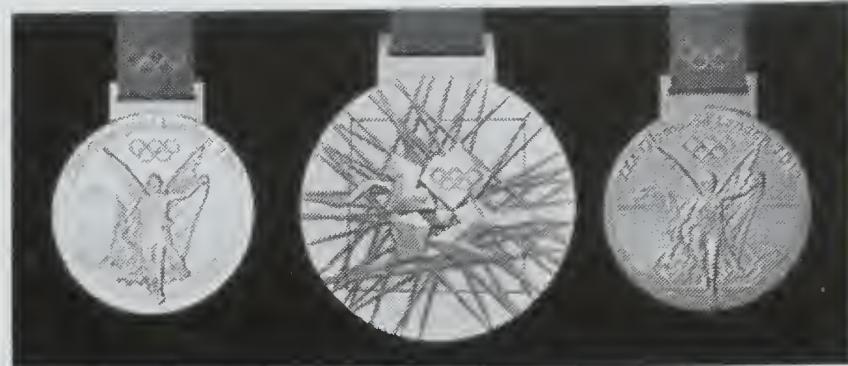
The 1960 Games were the first to be fully covered by television.

Approximately 5,000 athletes participated, representing 83 countries.



2012 Olympic Medal in London

London is the only city to have hosted the official Games three times (1908, 1948 and 2012).



The medals were awarded during 302 Victory Ceremonies.

Around 4,700 medals were made for this year's Summer Games and were awarded during the 302 Victory Ceremonies that took place at venues across the United Kingdom.

The medals were made by the Royal Mint at their headquarters in Llantrisant, South Wales. The precious ore for the medals were supplied by London's 2012 sponsor Rio Tinto and was mined at Kennecott Utah Copper Mine near Salt Lake City in America, as well as the Oyu Tolgoi project in Mongolia.

About 800 people were involved in making them and each medal took 10 hours to make on a giant press named Colossus, which was built specially for making these medals. They were struck 5 times and then heated to over 1300 degrees and further pressed for 15 minutes every time with a weight of nearly 2 million pounds. They supposedly are the heaviest medals in the history of the Summer Olympics.

The custom of the sequence of gold, silver and bronze for the first three places dates from 1904 Summer Olympics in St. Louis, Missouri. The International Olympic Committee has retroactively assigned gold, silver and bronze medals to the three best placed athletes in each event. If there was a tie for any of the top three best, all competitors are entitled to receive the

appropriate medals according to the Olympic Committee's rules.

It's every athlete's dream to win a gold medal. Actually, the cherished gold medal contains very little gold – it's actually made of 92.5% silver and 1.34% gold with copper filling in the rest.

Medal designs have varied considerably since the first Olympic Games in 1896, particularly in size and weight. A standard obverse (front) design of the medals for the Summer Olympic Games began in 1928 and remained for many years, until its replacement at the 2004 Games as the result of controversy surrounding the use of the Roman Coliseums rather than a building representing the Games Greek roots.

* * *

Internet Sales Tax Bill Gains Momentum in Congress

Online merchants large and small may soon be collecting sales tax from customers. Retailers heard some magic words at a House hearing on July 24th: "Tax-free sales on the Internet may be coming to an end."

At issue is whether Congress should pass legislation that would allow states to start collecting sales taxes on online purchases. Under current law, online retailers have to collect sales taxes only if they have a physical presence in the state where the customer resides. Otherwise, customers are supposed to pay taxes on their online purchases directly to their states, but that hardly ever happens.

Retailers have long complained that the tax-free status of e-commerce gives Internet retailers an unfair price advantage. As more retail sales move toward the Internet, state and local governments are increasingly feeling the loss of sales tax revenue.

Supportive lawmakers who favor keeping taxes low now think the time has come to force internet retailers to collect sales taxes.

The People's Accommodation Store

[by Randy Raikes #2137]

Just one token can lead you to a hidden treasure. I was walking the floor of the Waukesha Coin Show when I found a dealer I've had luck with in the past. He had a Civil War token from Waukesha, Wisconsin, a city west of Milwaukee and my home town. It had a symbol of a boot on one side and H.W. Sherman -- Dry Goods, Hat, Caps and Groceries, Waukesha Wisconsin on the other side.



FULD: WI 930C-1A

H.W. Sherman, source: Civil War Token Society

During the Civil War, merchants used tokens and bank scripts due to the lack of coinage. People hoarded gold, silver and even copper coins in the beginning years of the war. The Federal government had not issued enough currency so merchants were forced to issue privately made tokens that became accepted as a replacement currency, usually worth one cent. These Civil War tokens are known as Civil War store cards and usually have a standard picture on one side (reverse) and the merchant's promotion on the other (obverse).1

I'm a fairly new collector and this was my first exposure to Civil War store cards and thought it was neat to see one from Waukesha. I walked back over to the other side of the hall, looking at other coins and then

lit hit me (that feeling you probably know as a collector)... I had to have that token. It was from Waukesha and part of my hometown's history. What was the story behind it and who was H.W. Sherman? I felt a strange anxiety that someone had purchased the token. I had to get there before it was gone. I hustled back to the dealer. It took all the money that I had with me, but it was worth it. So began my search for H.W. Sherman and his store.

* * *

Henry W. Sherman came to Waukesha County Wisconsin in the 1840's from New Haven Connecticut. His brother Andrew T. Sherman had settled Genesee Township, in Waukesha County, in 1841 at the age of 20 while Henry would have been 24 years old.² Henry came from family well known in American history. He is a son of Charles Sherman and Jennet Taylor. Charles served as Colonel during the War of 1812, having charge of the coast defenses between New Haven and New London. His father, John Sherman, was a grandson of Hon. Roger Sherman, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.³

Census records show Henry Sherman worked as a clerk and then as a merchant in 1850 and 1860, respectively.⁴ At age 43, Henry opened his own store. The May 13, 1862 Waukesha Freeman announced:

"ANOTHER CANDIDATE FOR PUBLIC FAVOR – The store recently occupied by C. Cork, has been rejuvenated, and is now being filled with a fine stock of Dry Goods, Boots and Shoes, Crockery, &c. It is termed 'The People's Accommodation Store' and is under the management of that prince of good fellows H. W. Sherman. We predict for the New Store, a good business, and to its patrons, good goods at low figures."

The first ad for the People's Accommodation Store appeared in the following week's Freeman, May 20th. Henry's ad states his store is located "one door east of C. Jackson's Drug & Book Store, Main-st." I've attempted to find a photo of Henry's store.

An 1854 photo of Main street Waukesha shows an awning one store past C. Jackson's Drug & Book store identified by the "giant mortar" sign on the right side of the street. I assume this to be the C. Cork store that Henry took occupancy of.



About 1854, Main St.. Waukesha looking east towards Five Points. C.Cork's store awning just beyond mortar sign. (center of photo).
Source: John Schoenknecht collection.

The People's Accommodation Store ads appear in the Freeman from May 20, 1862 to January 13, 1863. They read as follows:

"Glorious News! Secesh Outdone!! Peace Declared !!! At The People's Accommodation Store, Where there is now opening for exhibition and sale and entire new and choice selection of all kinds of goods in the line of Dry Goods, Boots & Shoes. Hats & Caps, Crockery & Glass Ware, Groceries, Stone and Wooden Ware, &c, &c; Superior in quality and more reasonable in price than ever before offered to the people of Waukesha County. The

Stock will soon be complete, and we now invite one and all to come and examine our goods and prices that we may serve those who may want and convince those who may doubt. The well known H.W. Sherman, so long a resident of Waukesha, will always be found at his post to serve, his old friends and acquaintances to the best of his ability, and deem it a pleasure at all times to show goods, even if you do not purchase. Remember the place and title which we give the 'institution,' and which we intend to carry out to the letter, and make it in every sense of the word THE PEOPLE'S ACCOMMODATION STORE. One door east of C. Jackson's Drug & Book Store, Main-st."

Around the Summer of 1862, the United States was completely coinless. Businesses had paper script printed, typically in values of 3, 5, 10, 25, and 50 cents to be used to buy goods and services.⁵

GLORIOUS NEWS!

SECESSION OUTDONE!!

PEACE DECLARED !!!

—AT THE—
People's Accommodation
STORE,

Where there is now opening for exhibition and sale an entire new and choice selection of all kinds of goods in the line of:

Dry Goods, Boots & Shoes, Hats & Caps, Crockery & Glass Ware, Groceries, Stacc and Wooden Ware, &c., &c.;

Precious in quality and more reasonable in price than ever before offered to the people of Waukesha County.

The Stock will soon be complete, and we now invite one and all to carefully examine our goods and prices, that we may prove them who may want and convince them who may doubt. The well known

H. W. SHERMAN,
so long a resident of Waukesha, will always be found at his post to serve his old friends and acquaintances to the best of his ability, and deem it a pleasure to all visitors to show goods, even if they do not purchase.

Remember the place and title which we give the 'institution,' and which we intend to carry out to the letter, and make it every sense of the word

THE PEOPLE'S ACCOMMODATION STORE.
One door east of C. Jackson's Drug & Book Store, Main-st.

Source: Waukesha Freeman,

Henry issued such notes. They can be found today but are fairly rare. It's estimated only five exist of each denomination.⁶

I found a few collectors with early large type notes and interestingly they had the words "or Currency" written on the note after goods. These notes were issued as No. 1 and No. 5. I'm assuming Henry added the words since the handwriting is similar to his signature. All the notes that I found with dates on them, small type, ranging from numbers 20 to 142 were signed in December of 1862.⁷

At this time the city of Waukesha had about 2,086 residents and was growing. The going wage for a harvest hand was \$1.50 per day.⁸ A dozen eggs cost 13 cents. And the Waukesha Freeman newspaper published every Tuesday cost \$1.50 for a year subscription.⁹

Henry also issued tokens or store cards. He would have ordered them sometime in 1862 to early 1863 from a die sinker named Lanphear from Cleveland, Ohio.¹⁰ There are three known Civil War Store Cards from Waukesha, Wisconsin: J.A. Dunbar, Charles Cork and Henry W. Sherman Agt. They all sold groceries and dry goods.



Obsolete bank script, People's Accommodation Store, 10 cent, no. 104, dated Dec. 16th, 1862. signed: H.W. Sherman agt. Soucre: Tom Casper collection.

The H.W. Sherman store card has a symbol of a boot on one side and on the reverse “H.W. Sherman Ag.t / Dry Goods / Hats, / Caps and / Groceries, / Waukesha, /Wis.” It is listed by FULD as 930C-1a. It is considered somewhat rare as an estimated 20-74 exist. Compared to Dunbar’s and Cork’s with 20-74 and 10-20 respectively.¹

Two years after opening the store, a partnership between C. Jackson and Henry Sherman regarding the People’s Accommodation Store was dissolved on June 27, 1864 and the announcement stated “entire stock of goods will be sold at unprecedently low figures.”¹¹ Shortly afterwards, on Sept 6, 1864 a young townsman R. L. Gove leases Sherman’s store and announces he is filling it with a “choice assortment of boots and shoes.”¹² I found a photograph of Main street from 1870 that shows the store east of C. Jackson’s with a sign: R L. Gove – Boots & Shoes. In a Sept 20, 1864 Freeman ad for R. L Gove’s store “People’s Boots and Shoe store” states its “Now Ready for Fall and Winter Trade” and references “Sherman’s Old Stand”.

The building next to C. Jackson’s has changed since H.W. Sherman occupied it. At one time replaced with a new building by the National Exchange Bank in 1893.¹³ Today, at 311 W Main Street, the building is home to Art & Framing 123, a custom picture frame studio. Some remnants of the old bank structure are still there but overall it has been remodeled with a cream city brick exterior and a simple inviting front door. The C. Jackson building still stands as it did in the 1860’s. It now is Black Dragon Tattoo. You can lean against the exterior brick wall and envision horse drawn wagons pulling up to load supplies.

I learned a lot about Waukesha’s history and some of its early pioneers as I was researching my token. I find it amazing how much enjoyment one token can bring. I still have more to uncover about Henry Sherman and a few mysteries to solve. I’m still looking for a picture of his store. It’s like searching for hidden treasure.

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- 6) Wisconsin Obsolete Bank Notes & Script, Chester L. Krause 1994 p. 476.
- 7) Notes from contacted collectors and from the Eliasberg & Krause Collections - 3/2/2010 Lot 3307, Chester L. Krause Collection.
- 8) *Waukesha Daily Freeman*, Centennial Edition, 1859-1959, Section A p. 10.
- 9) Waukesha Freeman, December 23, 1862, p. 2
- 10) *Wisconsin Civil War Tokens*, The Robert C. Kraft Collection, by Rich Hartzog, World Exonumia Press. 1991 p. 38
- 11) Waukesha Freeman, June 28, 1864 p. 2.
- 12) Waukesha Freeman, Sept. 6, 1864, p. 3.
- 13) Exchange Bank opened in 1882; Depression closed it, *Waukesha Daily Freeman*, Centennial Edition, 1859-1959, Section L, p. 20.

Randy Raikes can be contacted at rraikes@wi.rr.com.

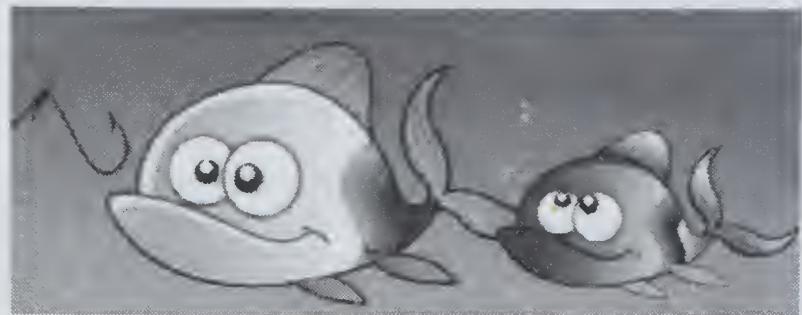
Where did the Wisconsin Friday Night Fish Fry Tradition Come From?

[Wisconsin State Journal]

There are fish fry traditions in lots of places, and some (but not all) are related to the Lenten season and its Friday meat ban. But what sets Wisconsin apart is that it happens year-round and is so pervasive.

"In the vast majority of restaurants you can get fish on a Friday night, and I just don't think you can find that anywhere else." said Janet Gilmore, an associate professor in the UW-Madison Folklore Program and Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures.

The Wisconsin fish fry appears to have really taken off in the 1920s and '30s, spreading throughout the state from Catholic centers like Green Bay and Milwaukee. Fish were plentiful and cheap, and regional species like walleye, bluegill, catfish and perch are still often found alongside the imported staple, cod.

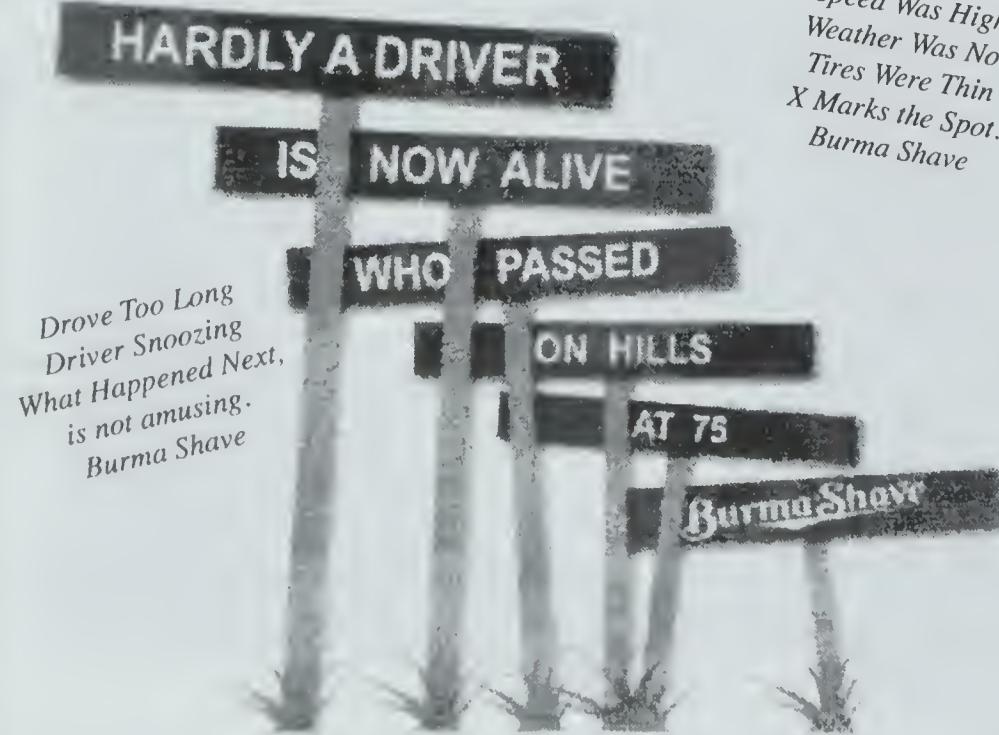


Along the way, the practice was spiced by other cultures, such as German and Czech tavern traditions of gathering to eat and drink after work, and bringing the whole family to dine on weekends.

Prohibition was another influence when taverns competed for customers by offering "free lunches" of inexpensive fish and selling alcohol under the table.

The details vary tremendously throughout the state, "and that's where you can find a lot of the ethnic and local variation." Gilmore said, from perch in Green Bay to walleye up north to catfish near the Mississippi. Accompaniments can include french fries, coleslaw, rye bread and even pea soup or potato pancakes and applesauce.

* * *



For those who never saw any of the Burma Shave signs, here is a quick lesson in our history of the 1930's and '40's.

Before there were interstates, when everyone drove the old 2-lane roads, Burma Shave signs would be posted all over the countryside in farmers' fields. They were small red signs with white letters. Five signs about 100 feet apart, each containing 1 line of a 4-line couplet... with the obligatory 5th sign advertising Burma Shave.

Coin Club Meetings

Barron County Coin Club

Meets 7:00 p.m. the 2nd Thursday at the School Administration Bldg., 700 Augusta St., Rice Lake. Contact Barron County Coin Club, P.O. Box 362, Rice Lake, WI 54868.

Elgin IL Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 1st Wednesday at the VFW Post 1307, 1601 Weld Rd., Elgin, IL 60123. Contact Don Cerny, PO Box 561, S. Elgin, IL 60177. Ph. 847-888-1449.

Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club

Meets the 3rd Thursday (April-October); at the Siren Sr. Center, 23943 State Road 35, Siren, 7:00 traders; 8:00 business meeting. Contact Gary Schauls, 2702 150th St., Luck, WI 54853-3811. Phone 715-472-2002.

Fond du Lac Coin Club

Meets the 1st Tuesday (May thru Sept.) at the Senior Center East 2nd Street in Fond du Lac. Contact Fond du Lac Coin Club, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903.

Fox Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at Prime Time Club, 11150 Valley Road, Menasha.

Intl. Bank Note Society

Meets 2nd Saturday at 1 p.m. at North Shore Library, 6800 N. Port Washington Rd., Milwaukee. Contact James Downig 920-487-5571, mufelka@itol.com.

Kenosha Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st Thursday of each month (except July & August) at 3030 39th Ave, Kenosha. Contact: Jerry Binsfeld 262-657-4653.

Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Silverbrook Middle School, 120 N. Silverbrook Drive in West Bend. Youth meeting at 6:30. Contact: Dave Hunsicker 262-338-6064.

Lake County Coin Club

Meets 7:00 the 1st Tues. each month at the Gurnee Police Facility, 100 N. O'Plaine Rd., Gurnee, IL. Contact: George Efsen, 847-975-5338..

Lakeland Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 6:45 the first and third Thursday of each month at Lakeland Senior Center, Woodruff, WI.

Madison Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Alicia Ashman Branch of the Madison Public Library, 733 N. High Point Road. Contact Tom Galway. Phone 608-238-1722.

Manitowoc Coin Club

No regular monthly meetings. An annual coin show is held in February. Contact Al Hrudka 920-775-4979.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:00 on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Mayfair Mall Community Room, 2500 N. Mayfair Road in Wauwatosa. Contact www.milwaukeenumismaticsociety.com.

Nicolet Coin Club

Meets at 6:30 on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at the Bay Family Restaurant corner of Military and 9th St. in Green Bay.

Racine Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:30 the 2nd Thursday at Castlewood Restaurant, 2811 Wisconsin St., Sturtevant, WI.. Contact Bill Spencer at A.C.S. 4625 Washington Ave. Racine, WI 53405. Ph. 262-637-7766. (no July or Aug. mtg). racine.numismatic.society@gmail.com.

Richland Center Coin Club

Meets 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Bowling Alley. (No meetings June/July/August) Contact Larry Schlafer 608-279-1182.

Rockford Area Coin Club

Meets 6:30 Thursday at North Suburban Women's Club, 6320 N. 2nd St., Loves Park, www.exonumia.com/race.htm. Contact: Rockford Area Coin Club, c/o Darrell Schultz, P.O. Box 294, Cherry Valley, IL 61016.

Sheboygan Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 every other Tuesday at Maple Lanes Bowling Alley, 3107 S. Business Dr., in Sheboygan. Contact Sheboygan Coin Club, PO Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53081.

South Shore Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at St. Roman's Parish Office, 1710 W. Bolivar Ave. in Milwaukee. Contact Walter Weis 414-384-7966. www.sscmke.org.

Waukesha Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Waukesha Salvation Army offices at 445 Madison St., Waukesha. Contact Forrest Schumacher, 2300 Avalon Drive, Waukesha, WI 53186. Ph: 262-542-5990. www.waukeshacoinclub.com.

Wisconsin Valley Coin Club

Meets at 6:30 on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at Schofield Coin & Hobby, 754 Grand Ave., Schofield, WI 54476. (June, July, Aug. mtg 3rd Tue.) Contact Thad Streeter, 5002 Tanya St., Schofield, WI 54478. Ph. 715-574-2777.

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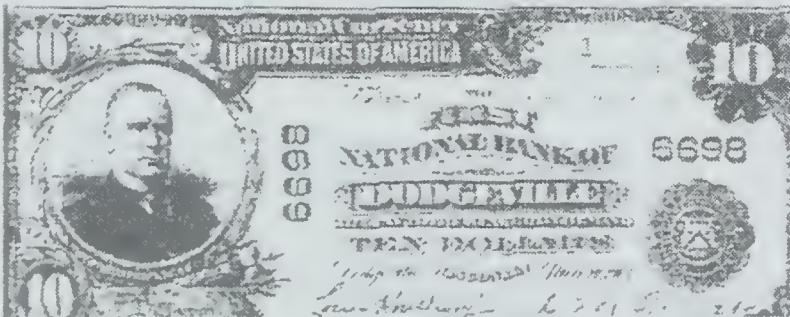
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Please send information on your upcoming show to the NOW News Editor, PO Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560. Include name of club, location of show, dates, hours, number of tables and your show/bourse chairman's name, address and phone number.

2012

August 19, 2012 - Fond du Lac

Fond du Lac Coin Club's annual show at the Holiday Inn, 625 West Rolling Meadows Drive, Fond du Lac, WI. Hours: 9-4 p.m. Bourse Chm. Randy Miller, 920-231-6161.

August 26, 2012 - Portage

Collectors Choice Coin Show at the Portage Fair Grounds, 300 Superior St., Portage, WI 53901. Hours: 9:00-4:00 p.m. 50 tables. Contact John Krueger, Phone: 608-745-3330.

September 30, 2012 - Milwaukee

Milwaukee Numismatic Society's Annual Coin Show at American Serb Memorial Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 75 tables, \$1 admission. Show chair. Tom Casper 414-425-5444; teasper57@hotmail.com.

October 18-20, 2012 - ANA

National Money Show at Dallas Convention Center, Dallas, TX.

October 20, 2012 - Sheboygan Falls

Sheboygan Coin & Stamp Show at Sheboygan Falls Municipal Hall, 375 Buffalo Street, Sheboygan Falls. Hours: 9-3:30 p.m. 40 tables. Bourse chairman, Ed Rautmann, P.O. Box 907, Sheboygan WI 53082. Phone: 920-893-5864.

October 28, 2012 - Elgin, IL

Elgin Coin Club's 50th annual coin show at the VFW Post 1307, 1601 Weld Road, Elgin, IL. Hours: 9:00 - 4 p.m. 32 tables. Bourse chm. Don Cerny, PO Box 561, So. Elgin, IL 60177. Ph: 847-888-1449.

November 8-11, 2012 - Rosemont, IL

National Coin & Currency Convention sponsored by Professional Currency Dealers Assoc. at Crowne Plaza Chicago O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont, IL 60018. Public Admission Friday 10-6 p.m., Saturday 10-6 p.m., Sunday 10:00-2 p.m. (\$5 for 3-day pass valid Friday-Sunday). Bourse chm. Kevin Foley Ph. 414-807-0116 or kfoley2@wi.rr.com.

November 11, 2012 - Green Bay

Nicolet Coin Club's Fall Show at Comfort Suites-Rock Garden, 1951 Bond Street, Green Bay. Free admission, 39 tables. Show contact Roger Bohn, Ph. 920-819-7294 or boneyard7@yahoo.com.

November 11, 2012 - Springfield, IL

Central Illinois Numismatic Assoc. 23rd annual Fall Show at Northfield Center I, 3210 Northfield Dr., Springfield, IL 70 dealer tables. Hours: 9-4 p.m. \$1 admission. Show chm. Steve Butler 217-528-7634.

2013

February 17, 2013 - Oshkosh

Wisconsin Coin Expos LLC 30th annual coin show. Contact Randy Miller 920-231-6161.

March 10, 2013 - New Berlin

Waukesha Coin Club's 44th annual coin show at New Berlin Ale House, 16000 W. Cleveland Avenue, New Berlin, WI. Hours: 9-4:00 p.m. \$2 admission, 35 dealers, exhibits, free parking. Bourse chm. Tom Snyder. Further info: www.waukeshacoinclub.com. Phone 262-542-5990.

March 24, 2013 - Appleton

Fox Valley Coin Club's 58th Annual Spring Show at Darboy Club, N9695 Country Rd., N. Appleton. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 40 tables. Show contact James Bayer, PO Box 1981, Appleton, WI 54912-1981. Phone 920-739-1089.

April 4-6, 2013 - Milwaukee

South Shore Coin Show at Wyndham Hotel Airport, 4747 South Howell Ave., Milwaukee. Show contact: Walter Weis 414-384-7966.

April 14, 2013 -- Wausau

Wisconsin Valley Coin Club's show at Howard Johnson's Inn & Conference Center, 2101 N. Mountain Road, Wausau. Hours: 9-4 p.m. Bourse chm. Thad Streeter, 715-574-2777.

April 24-27, 2013 - CSNS

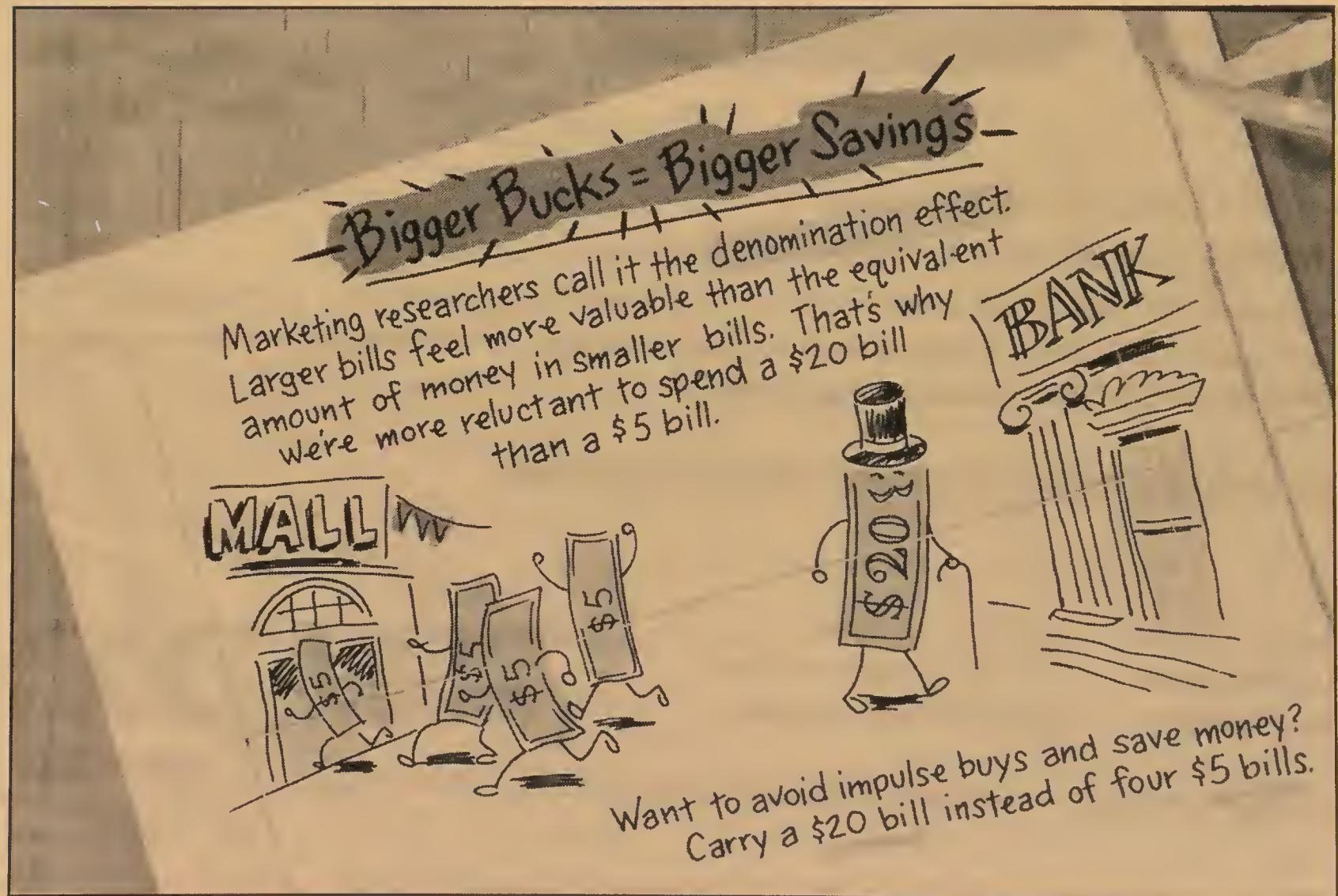
Central States Coin Show at Renaissance Hotel & Convention Center, Schaumburg, IL.

May 11, 2013 - Numismatists of Wisconsin

Sheboygan Coin Club will host the NOW Show at the Municipal Hall, 375 Buffalo St., Sheboygan Falls, WI. 50 tables, free admission, Hours: 9-3:30 p.m. Bourse chm. Ed Rautmann, Phone 920-893-5864.

August 2013 - ANA

World's Fair of Money, Chicago.



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*Autumn to winter; winter into spring,
spring into summer -- summer into fall --
So rolls the changing year, and so we change;
Motion so swift, we know not that we move!*

Dinah Mulock Craik

